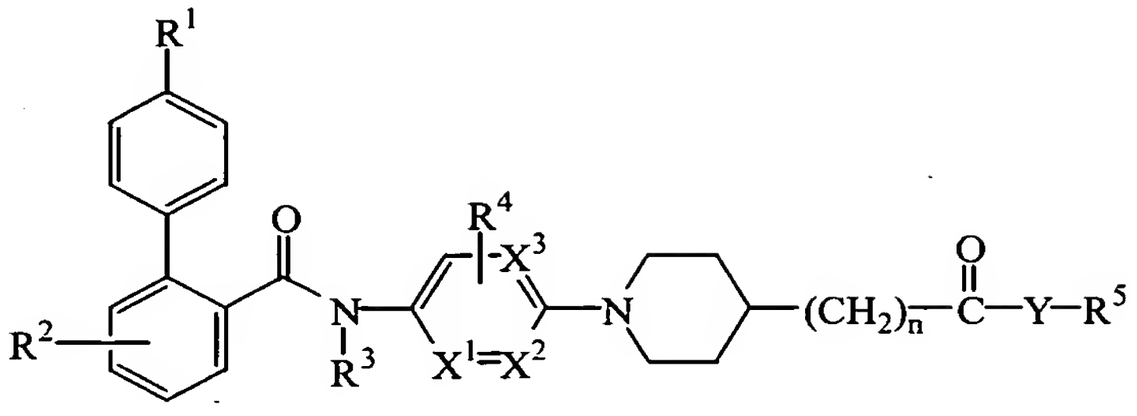
Claims

1. A compound of formula (I)



(I),

the *N*-oxides, the pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salts and the stereochemically isomeric forms thereof, wherein

R^1 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, halo, or polyhaloC_{1-4}alkyl;

R^2 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, halo, or polyhaloC_{1-4}alkyl;

R^3 is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^4 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, or halo;

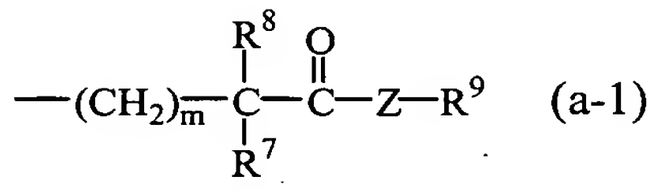
n is an integer 0, or 1;

X^1 is carbon and X^2 is carbon; or X^1 is nitrogen and X^2 is carbon; or X^1 is carbon and X^2 is nitrogen;

X^3 is carbon or nitrogen;

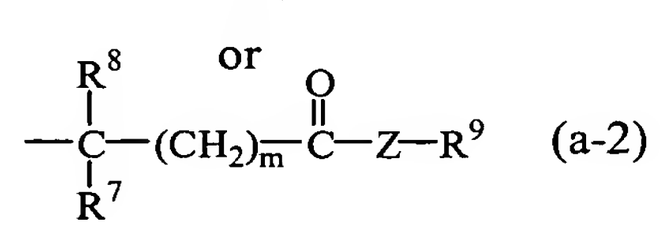
Y represents O, or NR^6 wherein R^6 is hydrogen or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^5 represents a radical of formula



(a-1)

or



(a-2)

wherein

m is an integer 0, 1, or 2;

Z is O or NH;

R^7 is hydrogen,

C_{1-6}alkyl;

C_{1-6}alkyl substituted with hydroxy, amino, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, aryl or heteroaryl;

C_{1-4}alkyl-O-C_{1-4}alkyl;

C_{1-4}alkyl-S-C_{1-4}alkyl; or
aryl;

R^8 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^9 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl^1, or C_{1-4}alkyl substituted with aryl^1;

or when Y represents NR^6 the radicals R^5 and R^6 may be taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form pyrrolidinyl substituted with C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl and optionally further substituted with hydroxy; or piperidinyl substituted with C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl;

aryl is phenyl; phenyl substituted with one, two or three substituents each independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxy, halo, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, or trifluoromethoxy; or benzo[1,3]dioxolyl;

aryl^1 is phenyl; phenyl substituted with one, two or three substituents each independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxy, halo, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, trifluoromethyl, or trifluoromethoxy; and

heteroaryl is imidazolyl, thiazolyl, indolyl, or pyridinyl.

2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein X^1, X^2 and X^3 are carbon.

3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R^1 is trifluoromethyl; R^2 is hydrogen; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is hydrogen; X^1, X^2 and X^3 are carbon; n is the integer 1; Y represents NR^6 wherein R^6 is hydrogen or methyl; and R^5 is a radical of formula (a-1) wherein m is the integer 0.

4. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R^1 is trifluoromethyl; R^2 is hydrogen; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is hydrogen; X^1, X^2 and X^3 are carbon; n is the integer 1; Y represents NR^6 wherein R^6 is hydrogen or methyl; and R^5 is a radical of formula (a-1) wherein m is the integer 1.

5. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R^1 is trifluoromethyl; R^2 is hydrogen; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is hydrogen; X^1, X^2 and X^3 are carbon; n is the integer 1; Y represents NR^6 wherein R^6 is hydrogen or methyl; and R^5 is a radical of formula (a-2) wherein m is the integer 1.

6. A compound as claimed in claim wherein R^1 is trifluoromethyl; R^2 is hydrogen; R^3 is hydrogen; R^4 is hydrogen; X^1, X^2 and X^3 are carbon; n is the integer 1; Y represents NR^6 and R^5 and R^6 are taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached to form pyrrolidinyl substituted with C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl and optionally

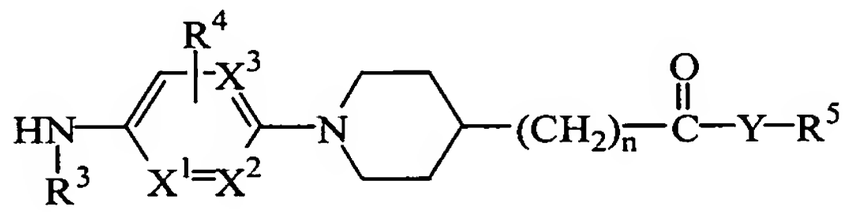
further substituted with hydroxy, or piperidinyl substituted with C_{1-4}alkyloxy-carbonyl.

7. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically active amount of a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6.

8. A process for preparing a pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein a therapeutically active amount of a compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 is intimately mixed with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

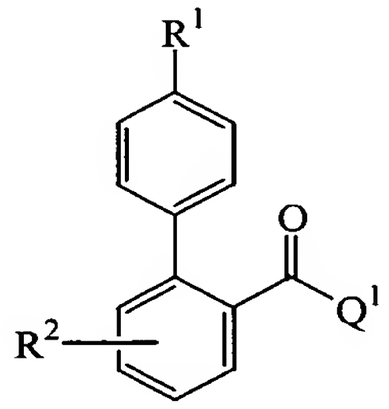
9. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 for use as a medicine.

10. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) wherein
a) an intermediate of formula (II), wherein R^3, R^4, R^5, Y, n, X^1, X^2 and X^3 are defined as in claim 1,



(II)

is reacted with a biphenylcarboxylic acid or halide having the formula (III), wherein R^1 and R^2 are as defined in formula (I) and Q^1 is selected from hydroxy and halo, in at least one reaction-inert solvent and optionally in the presence of a suitable base



(III)

b) or, compounds of formula (I) are converted into each other following art-known transformation reactions; or if desired; a compound of formula (I) is converted into an acid addition salt, or conversely, an acid addition salt of a compound of formula (I) is converted into a free base form with alkali; and, if desired, preparing stereochemically isomeric forms thereof.